



THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF HADDONFIELD

Vol. 1. No. 2

231 King's Highway East

July, 1958

TALK ON THE SHAKERS AND THEIR FURNITURE WILL HIGHLIGHT JULY 12 BOX SUPPER MEETING

Antique collectors and historians will look forward with enthusiasm to the talk scheduled for the July meeting of the Society at the Lake Street Friends Meeting House.

Mrs. William B. Tomlinson, Society member and authority on Shaker history and furniture, will speak on this subject from her prodigious storehouse of knowledge acquired through a lifelong study of the Shakers and a kinship with a Shaker eldress who was her great aunt.

This annual summer meeting will be held outdoors as usual. Bring your box supper for al fresco dining after the meeting which starts at 4 p. m.

Our speaker will illustrate her talk on the characteristics and finishes of Shaker furniture by exhibiting three pieces from her personal collection—a sewing table and two chairs, one dated circa 1800 and the other, 1890.

Mrs. Tomlinson points out that Shaker furniture designs are enjoying a return to popularity. Many reproductions of the originals are now being made featuring the plain, simple lines characteristic of “modern” furniture today.

Shaker furniture dates back to the late 1700's and was still being made by

the late 1800's, as many of our mothers and grandmothers can remember.

The devoutly religious character of the Shaker sects to whom plainness in dress, speech and living was a virtue was chiefly responsible for the plainness of their furniture which produced some of the most beautiful and livable pieces among Early American styles.

Furniture-making was a community project among Shaker sects with many hands turned to one piece, rather than an individual cabinet-maker's art. As a result none of the pieces was marked.

The Shakers came from Manchester, England and most of the colonies were established in the New England states. There are also four in Ohio and two in Kentucky.

As many antiquarians know, the greatest collection of Shaker furniture today is in the Shaker Museum in Chatham, New York. Another outstanding collection is in the Albany museum.

It is our hope that this glimpse into the history of our Early American Shakers will whet your appetite for the remainder of their fascinating story at the next Historical Society meeting. Guests are cordially invited.

PRESIDENT LEICHT LAUDS BULLETIN INVITES MEMBERS TO CONTRIBUTE

As President of the Historical Society of Haddonfield, I wish to acknowledge my appreciation and thanks to our editor and publisher, Mrs. James G. Aiken, (Joan), for our first presentation in February of the Bulletin of the Society.

These issues will be very helpful in keeping the membership informed and interested in our activities, acquisitions and plans and will also provide a medium for interesting contributions from our members.

Mrs. Aiken plans to give Society members through the Bulletin a summary of talks that have been made at previous meetings, to serve as a permanent record for those particularly interested in any of the subjects and for those who were not able to attend. The Bulletin will also carry more detail of forthcoming meetings than it is possible to give in our announcement postcards.

We enthusiastically invite your "literary" contributions to the Bulletin. If you have any anecdotes, town legends, facts unknown, stories of people who have contributed to the color and life of Haddonfield, won't you send them to Mrs. Aiken? Perhaps you would like to contribute an article or paper that you have written. You can help make the past alive—a fascinating pastime for any historian or antiquarian.

We are most anxious to have our Society increase its influence in our town and we believe the Bulletin will prove an important means of communication by which we can achieve this goal and add new members to our Society. Mrs. Aiken plans to publish the Bulletin at least three times a year and in the event of sufficient material, four times a year.

Herbert R. Leicht, *President*.

AN 'HISTORIC' WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

Officers and members of the Society extend a most cordial welcome to our new members.

We are happy to report that the Society's membership is growing and deriving a deeper enjoyment of the present from a study of the past through the Society's programs and purpose. Members have found this enjoyment heightened by an active participation in the Society's activities and we hope our new members will join in this lively interest.

NEW MEMBERS

Mrs. Charles Beyer
419 Haddon Avenue

Mrs. Clayton Barto
148 Windsor Avenue

Mr. and Mrs. George Day
316 Hawthorne Ave.

Mr. and Mrs. Walter Deetz
156 Wayne Ave.

Mr. and Mrs. Philip Flagler
140 Westmont Ave.

Mr. and Mrs. Edward Goodwin
127 W. Park Ave.

Miss Sylvia Hanger
19 Euclid Ave.

Miss Anna B. Ireland
228 Washington Ave.

Mrs. John Hoffman
146 Haddon Ave.
Westmont

Mr. and Mrs. R. V. James
109B Coulter Ave.
Collingswood

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Knerr
409 Peyton Ave.

Mrs. William MacMillian
146 Haddon Ave.
Westmont

Mrs. Edna Pritchett
39 Estaugh Ave.

Mrs. Harriet Reiners
101 Warwick Road

Mr. and Mrs. William H. Stow, Jr.
324 Avondale Ave.

Mr. Robert Moore
614 Redman Ave.

NEW SUMMER HOURS AT SOCIETY HEADQUARTERS

During June, July and August, Historical Society headquarters will be closed on Mondays, but open Tuesdays to Saturdays inclusive from 2:30 p. m. to 4:30 p. m. This is a good opportunity to introduce your weekend guests to historic Haddonfield.

OLDEST HADDONFIELD WATCH, 1771, WINS PRIZE FOR MRS. A. H. RIDDELL AT SOCIETY MEETING

in this limited space but here are a few highlights worth remembering:

ON THE HISTORY OF TIME

The first division of time was night and day. Primitive man told time by his shadow. The sundial was the first device made by man to tell time. All manner of sundials including pocket sundials were in great use. Among other ancient time pieces were the Aztec calendar stone, the Greek clepsydra, or water-clock, King Alfred's notched candle, the shotgun glass and sandglass.

The Athenians are said to have been the first to use the hourglass, about 1330 A. D. This was used mostly by navigators and by pastors whose sermons lasted an hour with a frequent invitation to the congregation "Shall we have another glass?"—another hour's sermon.

The development of the pendulum in 1679 made clocks more accurate. Clocks came to America with William Penn about 1590. Abel Cotte, Peter Stretch, Rittenhouse and Terry are among the great names in Early American clockmakers.

The first American manufacturer to

(Continued on fourth page)

EDITOR'S NOTE: A review of the talk on "Our Treasured Sterling Silver" by Elaine Cooper, presented at the April meeting of the Society, will be reviewed in the next Bulletin. We suggest that you keep your Society Bulletin as a permanent record of historical information on the subjects presented. Our speakers are noted authorities in their field and the knowledge they share with us is not always available through ordinary means.

A treasure of antique watches owned by Haddonfield residents was unearthed at the Society's midwinter meeting when S. Kind and Sons, Philadelphia jeweler, offered a prize valued at \$10.00 to the person bringing the oldest watch to the meeting which featured a talk on "The Romance of Time."

Mrs. A. H. Rid dell of 20 Chestnut Street won the prize, a lovely barometer, for her watch made in England in 1771. Her closest competitor was a watch made in Ireland in 1795. The early and middle nineteenth century was well represented with many watches dating from 1800 to 1866.

Altogether eighteen watches were entered in the competition judged by the speaker of the evening, Mr. Ernest A. Cramer, a national authority on old timepieces.

Mr. Cramer's talk, illustrated by a dazzling array of collector's items ranging from ancient sundials to Westernized chimes, was adjudged by the large audience as one of the most interesting ever presented by the Society. The wealth of information on unusual time pieces generously shared by Mr. Cramer is too great to be reported

The Historical Society of Haddonfield

The purpose of the Society is to encourage historical study and research, to perpetuate the historical heritage of Haddonfield and to acquire and preserve articles of historical and antiquarian interest.

Officers for 1957-58 are:

Mr. Herbert R. Leicht, President
 Mr. Joseph M. Tatem, 1st Vice President
 Mr. Edwin J. Pearson, 2nd Vice President
 Mrs. Ellwood E. Hess, 3rd Vice President
 Mr. Charles R. Mulloy, Jr., Treasurer
 Mrs. Daniel Burt Harris, Recording Secretary
 Mrs. Warren W. Place,

Corresponding Secretary

Annual Membership Dues: \$2.00

Headquarters:

King's Highway East, Haddonfield, N. J.

Open Tuesday through Saturday afternoons
 from 2:30 to 4:30 o'clock.



Mrs. James G. Aiken, Editor

Historical Society Bulletin

Send all editorial contributions to:

120 Warwick Road
 Haddonfield, N. J.

(Continued from third page)

make watchmaking a production was the Waltham Watch Co. founded in 1854.

As for wristwatches, Queen Elizabeth wore one in 1570 and "ring" watches were a vogue in 1750. However, it was not until 1910 that most ladies began to wear watches on their wrists instead of on their shirtwaists. The gentlemen of the species were the last to adopt the fashion.

ON THE SOUNDS OF TIME

The earliest alarm clock was that which used the sounds of nature. The principle of the water clock, the earliest sound clock known, is the rise of water which strikes a gong. An improvement on the water clock was the sound of bells instead of gong, developed about 700 A. D. Other early sounds of time, still with us today, are the cuckoo clock (about 1730), the gong spring (about 1825), and chimes. Mr. Cramer played the Westminster chimes with their beautiful hour strike and the Canterbury chimes. Last and perhaps least of the sounds of time, is the modern brash Baby Ben—the alarm clock.

However, even the alarm sound is not new, says Mr. Cramer. As early as 1750 there were watches made with a repeating movement which indicated time by the striking of bells. These repeater watches are now a collector's item.